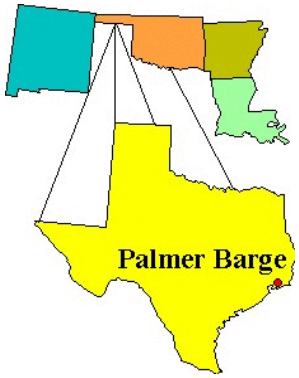
PALMER BARGE LINE SUPERFUND SITE
PORT ARTHUR, TEXAS



EPA Region 6
EPA ID# TXD068104561
Site ID: 0605212
Congressional District 9
Jefferson County
Updated: April 28, 2005
Next Update: September 2005

SITE DESCRIPTION

Location: Palmer Barge is located 4.5 miles NE of the city of Port Arthur in Jefferson County, Texas. The site is located on Old Yacht Club Road on Pleasure Islet. The site is 0.5 miles southwest of the point where the Neches River enters the Sabine-Neches Canal. The southern boundary of the site is directly adjacent to the State Marine (TXD099801102) Superfund Site.

Population: Approximately 60,953 people reside in Port Arthur. Other nearby areas include Groves, Nederland, and Port Neches.

Setting: The land use surrounding the site is industrial. Sabine Lake is a large commercial and recreational fishery yielding blue crabs, trout, redfish and drum.

WASTES AND VOLUMES

Analytical data collected during a 1999 Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) indicated the presence of both organic and inorganic contaminants in soil samples collected from locations surrounding the numerous above ground storage tanks at the site. There were also hazardous constituents found in the shallow near shore sediments of Sabine Lake.

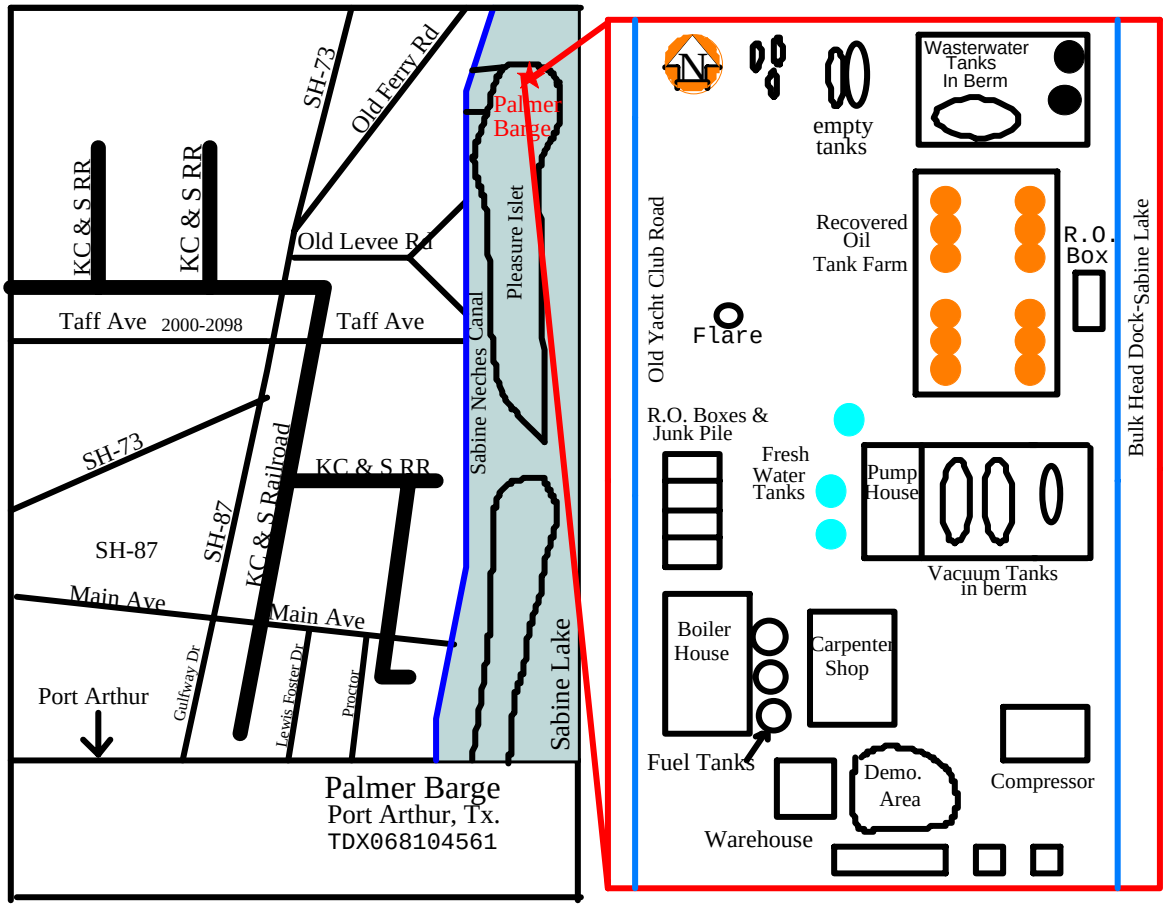
Semi-volatile organic contaminants of concern include acenaphthylene, anthracene, benzo(a)pyrene, chrysene and fluoranthene. There were also numerous pesticides and PCB (Aroclor 1254) detected in the onsite soil samples. Elevated levels of inorganic contaminants found included chromium, copper, lead, and zinc.

A more thorough determination of the nature and extent of the contamination present at the site will be possible following the completion of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). Field sampling for the RI/FS has been completed and a draft RI report should be available in Spring 2004.

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST

NPL Inclusion Proposal Date:	May 11, 2000
NPL Inclusion Final Date:	July 27, 2000
NPL Deletion Proposal Date:	n/a
NPL Deletion Final Date:	n/a

SITE MAP



SITE HISTORY

In 1982 John Palmer acquired 17 acres from the City of Port Arthur comprising what is now the site, to begin his barge cleaning business. The primary operations at Palmer Barge included cleaning, degassing, maintenance and inspection of barges and other marine equipment. Typical cleaning operations included the removal of sludge, liquid (heals) and all other residual material by pressure steaming the vessel holds. Degassing activities involved the removal of explosive vapors from the barge holds using nitrogen or boiler exhaust.

In 1983 Banker Phares, a trustee of Jefferson County placed a lien on the Palmer Barge Line, Inc. property. In October 1994, Wrangler Capital assumed all claims from Palmer Barge Line, Inc. In July 1997 Wrangler Capital purchased Palmer Barge Line, Inc. from receivership and the company ceased operations as a barge and marine vessel service and maintenance company.

ENFORCEMENT HISTORY

Fall 2001: Notice letters for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) issued to identified Potentially Responsible Parties (PRP's).

Spring 2002: Negotiations with PRP's taking place to conduct RI/FS

Fall 2002: Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) is signed by PRP's to conduct the RI/FS.

February 2003 PRP group initiated RI/FS.

February 2005 The PRP group has completed the remedial investigation and is preparing the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments.

PRESENT STATUS AND ISSUES

The Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study began in February 2003. Field sampling has been completed and a Final RI Report was submitted in January 2005. Preparation of the Feasibility Study will start before the end of February 2005 and plans are to complete the FS by May 2005.

HUMAN HEALTH AND ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

The PRP Group are currently preparing the Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments. Plans are to complete the risk assessments in March 2005.

RECORD OF DECISION

A Record of Decision (ROD) has not been signed for the Palmer Barge Line Superfund Site. Plans are to sign the ROD for the Palmer Barge Superfund site in September 2005.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The EPA will seek community involvement throughout the remedial process by conducting Open Houses and Public Meetings. A Community Relations Plan will also be developed and put into place.

Site Repository: Port Arthur Public Library
4615 9th Avenue
Port Arthur, TX 77642

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT

A Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) is for a local citizen's group to secure the services of a technical advisor to increase citizen understanding of information that will be developed about the site during the Superfund process. By law, only one grant for up to $50,000 may be awarded for this site. To be eligible for a TAG, the group must incorporate itself. Also the group must meet a 20% matching requirement which may be in cash or donated services. If you are interested in applying for a TAG please contact Ms. Beverly Negri at (214) 665-8157, or toll free at 1-800-533-3508.

Notice of TAG Availability:
Palmer - 6/20/00, 8/28/00
State Marine - 5/00, 7/00

Letters of Intent Received: 11/25/03
Ms. Luverda Batiste
Mentors Outlining Definities for Earthly Living, (409) 982-9558

Final Application Received: Potential recipient has been asked to completely revise technical advisor Statement of Work (SOW) for Palmer. One SOW needs to be submitted separately for Palmer and another one for State marine. SOWs were due back to EPA within 60 days. As of 10/20/04, no revised SOWs have been received by EPA.

Grant Award: n/a

SITE CONTACTS

EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Carlos A. Sanchez	214-665-8507
EPA Remedial Project Manager:	Philip Allen	214-665-8516
EPA Site Attorney:	Joseph Compton	214-665-8506
EPA Community Involvement:	Beverly Negri	214-665-8157 or 1-800-533-3508
TNRCC Texas State Contact:	Luda Voskov	512-239-6368
EPA Region 6 Ombudsman	Arnold Ondarza	303-312-6777

REALIZED CLEANUP BENEFITS

Remedial efforts will help mitigate environmental problems caused by past operations at the site, as well as protect human health and the environment for any future uses of the site.